New-York Tribune.

Vol. XXVI.....No. 8,105. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1867. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

EUROPE.

NEWS BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE TO MARCH 31.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

FRANCE.

LONDON, March 30.—The early sale of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, or its eastern frontier, which formed part of the late German Confederation, to France by Holland is probable.

Count Walewski has resigned the Presidency of the French Corps Legislatif.

ITALY.

PARIS, March 30.—The American sloop-of-war Canandaigua has arrived at Civita Vecchia. Capt. Hopkins, United States Navy, to whom was intrusted President Johnson's letter for delivery to the Pope, subsequently proceeded to Rome, and executed his commission.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 30.—Ex-Gov. Eyre of Jamaica, who was recently arrested, was acquitted after a short examination.

LUXEMBURG.

BRUSSELS, March 31.—Placards hostile to Prussia, and favoring an alliance with France, have been posted up in the streets of Luxemburg. The Prussian commander of the fortress of Luxemburg has complained of the insult offered to his Government.

SERVIA.

LONDON, March 31.—A dispatch from Belgrade states that the Prince of Servia left that city yesterday for Constantinople.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, March 30—8 p. m.—The freight steamship William Penn, Capt. Billings, from New-York March 16, arrived here this evening.

SOUTHAMPTON, March 30—Afternoon.—The steamship Teutonia, which left New-York on the 16th of March, arrived at this port at noon to-day. After landing London passengers, the Teutonia proceeded to Hamburg.

LIVERPOOL, March 30—Afternoon.—Information has been received that the J. B. Curtis was abandoned at sea on the 21st of February. No further particulars have been received.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LONDON, March 30—Noon.—Consols are steady at 91 for money. American securities are in request, and open at a considerable advance. The following are the quotations: Illinois Central shares, 79½; United States Five-Twenty bonds, 75¼; Erie Railway shares, 39½.

Evening.—Consols for money, 91¼; United States five-twenties, 75¼; Erie Railway shares, 39½; Illinois Central Railway shares, 79½.

FRANKFORT, March 30—Noon.—United States bonds open at 78½ for the issue of 1862 coupon. A dispatch from Paris states that the United States bonds in that city are unchanged in price, sales being made to-day at 84½.

P. M.—United States five-twenties closed at 78⅞.

LIVERPOOL, March 30—Noon.—The Cotton market is quiet and steady, and at the opening prices were unchanged; the sales to-day will probably aggregate 10,000 bales. Middling Uplands, 13¼; Middling Orleans, 13½. The Breadstuffs market is generally without change. Corn, however, has taken an upward turn and is quoted to-day 6d. higher. The following are the quotations: Flour, 28/9 per bbl. for Western Wheat, 13/3 per cental for Milwaukee Red and Amber; and 13/6 for California White. Corn—39/6 per quarter for Mixed Western. Barley, 4/6. Pork has declined considerably, and is now quoted at 76/ per barrel. Beef has declined to 124/6 per bbl. Bacon, 49/. Cheese, 60/. Lard, 50/. The Produce Market generally is quiet. Spirits Petroleum, 11d; Common Rosin, 8/9; Refined Petroleum, 1 6; Spirits Turpentine advanced 3d—sales at 37/3; Cloverseed, 54/; Pot Ashes, 34/; Scotch Pig Iron declined 6d.; sales at 51/6; Tallow, 44/6; Linseed Oil, £39; Linseed Cakes, £10; Calcutta Linseed, 66/. Whale Oil, £41 per tun; Fine Rosin advanced, 1/—sales at 17/.

Afternoon.—Since the opening, the Cotton market has become quite dull, and prices have fallen off full an ⅛ for Middling Uplands. It is now quoted at 13d; other articles are quiet and unchanged.

Evening.—Wheat—Sales of No. 1 red at 10s. 3d. Flour, 28s. 9d. Corn, 39s. 6d. @ 40s. Barley, 48 6d. White California Wheat, 13s. 6d. Oats, 3s. 3d. Pork, 76s. Beef, 124s. 6d. Bacon, 49s. Cheese, 60s. Lard, 50s. Spirits Petroleum, 11d. Common Rosin, 8s. 9d. Refined Petroleum, 1s. 6d. Spirits Turpentine, 37s. 3d. Clover seed, 54s. Pot Ashes, 34s. Scotch Pig Iron, 51s. 6d. Tallow, 44s. 6d. Linseed Oil, £39; Linseed Cakes, £10; Calcutta Linseed, 66s. Whale Oil, £41. Fine Rosin, 17s.

BY STEAMSHIP.

The Inman steamer, City of Paris, Capt. Kennedy, which left Liverpool on the 20th at 4 p. m., and Queenstown on the 21st of March, arrived here yesterday.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE REFORM QUESTION.

It seems to be now settled beyond all reasonable doubt that there will be no Reform bill carried during the present session, and that another appeal will be made to the present constituency of Parliament before the representatives finally decide how many of the unrepresented millions may be safely admitted within the pale of the Constitution. Lord Derby has declared that if his bill is rejected by the House of Commons he will appeal to the country, and, judging from its reception by the House on the evening of Monday, the 18th of March, the measure is already hopelessly condemned.

MR. DISRAELI'S SPEECH.

The details of the measure as propounded by Mr. Disraeli agree exactly with the description we have already given, and nothing new has been elicited except that the extensions and alterations would add 1,000,000 voters to the borough and 300,000 to the county constituencies. On the question of redistribution of seats the Government adhered to the plan which formed part of their first attempt. They take 30 members away from boroughs having a population of less than 10,000, and give 15 of them to county constituencies, 14 to large boroughs, and 1 to the University of London. The Chancellor of the Exchequer promised that copies of the bill should be in the hands of members on the following day, and having "burned his bridges and boats," concluded a long and able speech in the following language:

I hope that the House will candidly consider this measure. As far as we are concerned, we have spared no pains, no thought, and have not shrunk from what was more important, perhaps, in endeavoring to bring it before the House. I will not advert unnecessarily to the circumstances attending the framing of this measure which has now been brought before the House of Commons, under very great difficulties and at very great sacrifices. I do not wish to disguise that I have felt great chagrin and great mortification in connection with what has taken place [hear, hear]; but I believe I have done my duty [cheers], and under the circumstances I do not think I could have done other than I have. [Hear.] In attempting to bring the question to this point we have lost those whose absence from our councils we more than regret; we have had to appeal to a high-spirited party to make what no doubt to some was to a certain extent a sacrifice of principle, much sacrifice of sentiment, and much sacrifice of interest. [Hear.] But we have not appealed in vain [hear], because the members of that party were animated by the same feeling which influenced us—a sense of duty and conviction; they felt that the time had arrived when this question must be dealt with and settled extensively and completely. I hope, therefore, the House of Commons will give this measure a fair and candid consideration. We believe it is one which, if adopted in spirit, will settle its long differences; and that it is qualified to meet the requirements of the country. I am told for certain that there are objections against it, but I beg to remind the House of the distinction which we draw between popular privilege and democratic rights. I am told that in this measure there are checks and counterpoises, and that it assumes in this country the existence of classes. If there are checks and counterpoises in our scheme, we live under a Constitution of which we boast that it is a Constitution of checks and counterpoises. [Hear, hear.] If the measure bears some reference to existing classes in this country, why should we conceal from ourselves, or omit from our discussions, the fact that this country is a country of classes, and a country of classes it will ever remain? [Hear, hear.] What we desire to do is to give every one who is worthy of it a fair share in the government of the country by means of the elective franchise; but, at the same time, we have been equally anxious to maintain the character of the House, to make propositions in harmony with the circumstances of the country, to prevent a preponderance of any class, and to give a representation to the nation.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SPEECH.

Mr. Gladstone rose immediately, amid the cheers of his party, and proceeded to discuss the bill. He ridiculed Mr. Disraeli's sudden reverence for the principle of Rating, reminded him that the House in dealing with the county franchise last year had decided against it; condemned the redistribution as inadequate, though it might be dealt with in detail in Committee, and denied altogether the accuracy of Mr. Disraeli's figures. The great majority of the *householders* he expected to come in were mere "men in buckram;" instead of 237,000 not more that 140,000 would appear. That part of the scheme which relates to personal payment of rates and compound householders, Mr. Gladstone warmly attacked, pointing out in an elaborate argument that the processes by which they they are admitted to the Register differ in different burroughs, that they are under the management of the local authorities and that in most cases the vote would be measured by a fine in the shape of increased rates. He showed too, what facilities would be given for the manufacture of votes by electioneering agents. The three safeguards of the bill were Residence, Rating, and Dual voting; and examining these in detail, he showed that Rating would act very irregularly, and that large numbers might be excluded in some towns, by the action of vestries, and special local acts, while in *Agricultural* boroughs the franchise would be virtually manhood suffrage; and concerning the Dual vote Mr. Gladstone emphatically declared, amid loud cheering that he was implacably hostile to it, *that it was a gigantic engine of fraud*, and the proclamation of a war of classes. He remarked next on the absence of the lodger franchise from the bill, quoting Mr. Disraeli's description of it in 1859, and predicting that it would have to be introduced into the bill. Duality and personal payment of Rates were *practically dead* as safeguards already, and with the addition of a lodger franchise no doubt it would be a very advantageous bill for the Liberal party, but how that party would treat it was a question for future consideration. Mr. Gladstone's view evidently was that the measure clogged as it was by *safeguards* was a party move in the direction of class legislation, and stripped of those safeguards, it was a more revolutionary and Radical measure than he would be willing to support. The following were the most striking passages in his speech:

I will confess I was amazed and amused at the facility with which the right honorable gentleman, looking back at two decisions of the House of Commons last year, arrived at within a few nights of each other—one in favor of rating and the other in favor of rental as the criterion of the value of the house to which the suffrage should be attached—objected to one of these decisions as merely an insignificant accident, but accepted the other as the deliberate opinion of Parliament. [A laugh and "Hear, hear.] I shall not dwell upon that point, neither shall I now discuss the right honorable gentleman's plan of redistribution, further than to say that I think it is inadequate. [Hear, hear.] The right honorable gentleman has stated that there are great difficulties in arriving at a sound scheme of redistribution. I admit the difficulties of the question; but this is a matter which we may consider hereafter, and which must be dealt with in detail. I stated that as my opinion last session, when it was in favor of the Government with which I was connected. I still adhere and stand by it. [Hear, hear.] I pass by also the 20/ direct tax franchise, the educational franchise, the £50 fund franchise, and the £50 savings-bank franchise—which, by the way, has grown from £30, within the last fortnight. [A laugh.] I pass by those franchises with this simple remark: While I, of course, fully believe in the good faith with which the Chancellor of the Exchequer gives us the results which he expects from those several franchises, I must entirely decline to accept his figures. Without questioning the right honorable gentleman's good faith, I look upon those figures as wholly erroneous and visionary. To speak frankly, I look upon three-fourths of the enormous number of voters whom he paraded in different regiments—as 20/ direct taxes men, educational franchise men, £50 fund men, and £50 savings-bank men—as little more than men in buckram. [A laugh.] My objection is to the estimate of the right honorable gentleman. The principle of those votes is open to a great deal of comment which need not be introduced now.

After speaking of the anomalies which would be created by the bill in different boroughs in consequence of the different systems of renting and rating, Mr. Gladstone proceeded thus:

I am not one of those who believe the Constitution of the country is dependent upon the suffrage as absolutely as the Earl of Derby, who spoke the other night of an extended suffrage involving the destruction of the British Constitution. I have a great deal more faith in the British Constitution than to believe that it depends upon rating or upon an exact estimate and the adding of more or less to the constituencies. [Cheers.] I believe that we may make many mistakes, and yet the strong good sense and the whole traditions of this country will keep the Constitution on its legs. It is no reason why we should make mistakes or alter the customary method of our legislation, or why we should establish the new principle of the bill, as the right honorable getleman said the House of Commons did on the motion of the honorable member for Galway. Before I accede to a franchise which is close upon universal suffrage, equal to it or to manhood residential suffrage, in those rural districts where there is no Small Tenements Act in operation, I should like to ask myself first of all whether I am prepared to endure the application of the principle to all the county constituencies of the country. Nothing can be more preposterous than that you should say to a peasant, or common hodman, or day laborer, earning one shilling sixpence or two shillings a day, in a town where there is no composition in force, "You shall have your franchise for nothing and be put on the register without knowing it," while in great communities such as the vast parishes and boroughs of London, and many other towns of the country, you absolutely fine in time, or money, or both, the compound householder, who, at the same time, is a man whose perfect competence you propose to recompense by putting into his hand this dual vote which is given for the payment of direct taxes. The second of these safeguards, personal rating, as the right honorable gentleman proposes it, I venture to predict is doomed. It may be possible to make personal rating a condition of the suffrage; the right honorable gentleman has condemned the plan by which, perhaps, it can be done; but personal rating is a practical condition of the suffrage, while it is regulated partly by pure accident, partly by the will of the local or parochial authority, and partly by the activity of political agents, and through a liberal use of a candidates purse, cannot be embodied in an act to amend the representation of the people.

Mr. Gladstone concluded his remarks upon "dual" voting in these words: But, besides being a gigantic engine of fraud, this dual vote is a great deal more. It is a proclamation of war of classes. [Cheers.] Talk of the British Constitution! The author of this dual vote is the man who strikes at the British Constitution. [Loud cheers.] The British Constitution rests, and has rested from time immemorial, upon the mutual good will, respect, and good feeling of the people, upon the equality which they enjoy before the eye of the law, upon the manner in which they meet in their public assemblies, reckoning as men and citizens, and enjoying equal privileges in that capacity. [Cheers.] But the day you place in the hands of the rich man, under the notion of fortifying his position, this weapon, which he may use against his poorer fellow-countrymen, that day you seal the doom of the British Constitution. [Renewed cheers.] You sow dissensions that never can abate; you destroy the confidence that unites all classes of the community; that day, if you could pass this law, if you could promulgate it as an act of Parliament in the terms in which the Right Hon. gentleman proposes it, you would light up a flame the most dangerous and formidable that ever menaced the safety of a country. [Loud cheers.]

The only other speeches of importance were those of Mr. Lowe and Mr. Roebuck.

The former opposed the proposal of Government with all the vehemence which characterized his opposition to the scheme of Mr. Gladstone. He condemned the rating franchise, as well as duality of voting, and expressed himself as unwilling to commit the destinies of his country to the keeping of an unbridled democracy.

Mr. Roebuck taunted Mr. Gladstone with yearnings for office and power, and expressed his approval of all the Government propositions except "dual voting."

Mr. Henley and Mr. Butler Johnston, both on the Conservative side of the House, spoke in favor of the measure, as did Mr. Bernal Osborne, from the opposition benches.

Three prominent Conservatives, Lord Cranborne, Sir Wm. Heathcote, and Mr. Beresford Hope opposed the bill, the latter suggesting another "fancy franchise" to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the object of which should be to confer a vote on "ticket of leave men." The bill was read a first time, and the debate adjourned.

THE PRESS ON THE REFORM BILL.

The press, with the exception of the Government organs, condemn the measure.

The Times says: All sections of the House concur in condemning, if not the whole scheme, parts which are declared to be essential to it; nor do we see any hope of escape from a peremptory rejection of the bill, except a resolute endeavor on the part of the Ministry to retrace their steps, and, happily, their previous conduct gives us no reason to despair that they will make any amount of concession to the clearly expressed opinion of the House.

The Daily News is of opinion that, if the measure is to be proceeded with, the dual voting clause must be withdrawn. "This done, it will be for the Government and the House to consider whether, by the substitution of a lodger franchise for the more objectionable of the secondary qualifications, and by some provision for enfranchisement of compound householders as such, a reasonable satisfactory settlement might not be arrived at."

The Post observes "that the Government have so frequently changed their ground, that even now, although the bill is actually printed, we should not be surprised at hearing, on the motion for the second reading, that its most distinctive clauses will be abandoned in Committee. The Ministry were entitled to have their measure brought in and read, but it would certainly have proved a saving of much valuable time if it had received last night the quietus which awaits it at its next stage."

The Telegraph pronounces the scheme as totally unacceptable: "The bill is dead; it is time it were buried."

The Star says of the Government, "The manly and resolute tone of Mr. Gladstone will have shown them how utterly impossible it will be to carry such a proposal in the Parliament of Great Britian, and that all their hollow professions of adopting the system of rating are as well understood and as clearly doomed to complete exposure as the measure itself, so crude, unsatisfactory, and narrow, is certain to be ignominiously hurried to destruction."

The Pall Mall also denounces the measure in its present state.

The Day, the new "Conservative Liberal" paper, the first number of which appeared on the 19th, condemns the tone of Mr. Gladstone's speech, and supports the Government scheme. *The Herald, Standard, Globe*, and *Glowworm* support the proposals of the Cabinet.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE NIGHT OF THE GREAT DEBATE.

The benches of the House of Commons are not capable of accommodating the 658 gentlemen who compose it, and on the 18th of March, so great was the anxiety of every member to be present, that the House was crowded for half an hour before the Speaker took the Chair.

Those who have visited the English House of Commons will recollect that there are several small galleries, each distinct in itself. There is one appropriated to the exclusive use of peers of the realm; another from which the fair sex gaze through a brass grating at the "assembled wisdom of the nation." Then there is the reporters' gallery and the Speaker's gallery, the latter occupied by persons who are so fortunate as to obtain an order from that functionary. Last of all, there is the "strangers' gallery," holding certainly not less than sevety persons, but for admission to which every member is entitled to write one order. It may be fairly assumed that every member availed himself of his privilege for the night of the 18th of March, and as only seventy of the ticket-holders were likely to obtain a seat, considerable competition ensued. The police have orders to place the ticket-holders in line as they arrive at the doors of the House, and on the occasion of the Reform debate the duties of the police commenced at 12 o'clock on Sunday night, the 17th. By 3 o'clock on Monday morning more ticket-holders had arrived than would fill the gallery, and all after that hour were too late, so that the majority of persons who occupied the "strangers' gallery" on the "exciting night" had been waiting sixteen hours for admission.

It should be added, however, as an explanation, that nearly all of them waited by deputy. These deputies, if furnished with the pass, are allowed to hold their place in the line, and about an hour before the House meets, the original holders arrive, take the pass and the place, the deputy retiring plus from two to three sovereigns, according to agreement.

ABSTRACT OF THE REFORM BILL.

"The Representation of the People Act, 1867," introduced to Parliament by Mr. Disraeli on Monday March 18, having been printed, was issued to members of the House of Commons on Tuesday, March 19. The act applies only to England and Wales, and not to Scotland or Ireland, nor to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge.

Under the act it is proposed that every man who is of full age, not subject to any legal incapacity, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament for a borough, who is qualified as follows: "Is on the last day of July in any year and has during the whole of the preceeding two years been an inhabitant occupier, as owner or tenant, of any dwelling-house within the borough; and has during the time of such occupation been rated in respect of the premises occupied by him within the borough to all rates (if any), made for the relief of the poor in respect of such premises; and has before the 20th day of July in the same year paid all poor rates that have become payable by him in respect of the said premises up to the preceding 5th day of January." In the counties, subject to the conditions of age and legal capacity, every man shall be qualified to vote who [B] "is on the last day of July in any year, and has during the 12 months immediately preceding been the occupier, as owner or tenant, of premises of any tenure within the county of the rateable value £15 or upward; and has during the time of such occupation been rated in respect to the premises so occupied by him to all rates (if any) made for the relief of the poor in respect of the said premises; and has before the 20th day of July in the same year paid all poor rates that have become payable by him in respect of the said premises up to the preceding 5th day of January."

The educational franchises are that every man, either in counties or boroughs, shall be entitled to be registered, and to vote who, [C.] is on the last day of July in any year, and has during the year immediately preceding been resident in such county or borough, and is possessed of any one or more of the qualifications following: "Is, and has been during the period of such residence, a graduate or associate in arts of any university of the United Kingdom; or a male person who has passed at any senior middle class examination of any university of the United Kingdom; is, and has been during the period aforesaid, an ordained priest or deacon of the Church of England; or a minister of any other religious denomination appointed either alone or with not more than one colleague to the charge of any registered chapel or place of worship, and is, and has been during such period, officiating as the minister thereof; or serjeant-at-law, or barrister-at-law in any of the inns of court in England, or a certificated pleader or certificated conveyancer; or a certificated attorney or solicitor or proctor in England or Wales; or a duly qualified medical practitioner registered under the Medical Act, 1858; or a schoolmaster holding a certificate from the Committee of Her Majesty's Council on Education: Provided, that no person shall be entitled to be registered as a voter or to vote in respect of any of the qualifications mentioned in this section, in more than one place."

The pecuniary franchises are given to the voter who [D] "Has on the first day of July in any year, and has had during the two years immediately preceding, a balance of not less than fifty pounds deposited in some Savings Bank in his own sole name and for his own use; or holds on the first day of July in any year, and has held during two years immediately preceding, in the books of the Governor and company of the Bank of England or Ireland in his own sole name and for his own use any Parliamentary stocks or funds of the United Kingdom to the amount of not less than fifty pounds; or has, during the twelve months immediately preceding the 5th day of April in any year, been charged with a sum not less than twenty shillings in the whole year for assessed taxes and income tax, or either of such taxes, and has before the 20th day of July in that year paid all such taxes due from him up to the preceding 5th day of January; provided, first, that every person entitled to vote in respect of any of the qualifications mentioned in this section shall on or before the 20th day of July in each year claim to be registered as a voter; secondly, that no person shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, or to vote, in respect of any of the qualifications mentioned in this section for more than one place."

Conferring the dual vote is that [E] "A person registered as a voter for a borough by reason of his having been charged with and paid the requisite amount of assessed taxes and income tax, or either of such taxes, shall not by reason of being so registered lose any right to which he may be entitled (if otherwise duly qualified) to be registered as a voter for the same borough in respect of any franchise involving occupation of premises and payment of rates, and when so registered in respect of such double qualification he shall be entitled to give two votes for the member, or (if there be more than one) for each member to be returned to serve in Parliament for the said borough."

Then follows a clause giving a member to the University of London, and all necessary clauses whereby the main provisions of the bill may be put in force, appended to which are the forms under which claims to registration may be made.

On March 19, Mr. J. S. Mill gave notice that in Committee on the Representation of the People bill he should move to substitute the word "person" for "man;" his intention, of course, being to extend the franchise to women.

To an interrogation by Mr. Bright as to the proposition for dual voting, Mr. Disraeli promised to give an answer when the bill came before the House for a second reading.

CHURCH RATES ABOLITION BILL.

On Wednesday, March 20, in the House of Commons, Mr. Hardcastle moved the second reading of the Church Rates Abolition bill. He advocated the total abolition of these rates, contending that it would serve the Established Church, by calling forth the voluntary efforts of its wealthy members. On a division, there was a majority of 76 in favor of the second reading of the bill, a result which elicited loud cheers from the Opposition.

MEETING OF LIBERALS.

On the 21st Gladstone convened a meeting of the Liberal members of the House of Commons, it is understood, to agree on the course of opposition to the Government Reform bill.

DEATH OF DR. LIVINGSTONE DISBELIEVED.

The London Post says the Government has received dispatches from Zanzibar stating that the Arab merchants there disbelieve the report of Dr. Livingstone's death.

STATE RECEPTION.

Queen Victoria held a state reception on the 19th at Buckingham Palace, after which she proceeded to Marlborough House to visit the Princess of Wales.

A NEW PAPER AND A NEW PARTY.

The Day, the new Conservative-Liberal paper, made its appearance on the 19th. Its object is to found a new party, to be formed out of "Conservative-Liberals" and "Liberal-Conservatives."

FRANCE.

SPEECHES BY ROUHER, THIERS, JULES FAVRE, AND OTHERS.

In the Corps Legislatif, March 16, M. Rouher, Minister of State, replied eloquently to the speech of M. Thiers on foreign affairs. He claimed that the war in Italy was a part of the permanent policy of France, namely, to weaken Austria in that country. He justified the Imperial policy in the Danish question, and said that when the Emperor pointed out to England that to maintain the treaty securing Schleswig-Holstein to Denmark, war must be waged by land as well as by water, England shrank from the contest. He declared that the Emperor had done all in his power to prevent the conflict between Austria and Prussia, and said that the unexpected result of the battle of Sadowa had caused "great agony of mind" to the French Government, and that it seemed better to attempt the task of mediation rather than resort to war or sullen inactivity. He affirmed that mediation had not only secured peace but had prevented the Prussians from capturing Vienna. "In presence," said he "of the partial realization of the unity of Germany, what is our duty? We must be firm and precise; there must be no hesitation, and no compromise. If it be thought that France has lost a single centimetre of her rights we must draw the sword. I prefer the solemn storm of war to a morbid disquietude, in which our strength and prosperity would be gradually extinguished." He argued that France was in a better condition than before the Prussian war, since the old German Confederation could with Austria, arouse a population of 75,000,000 men against France, but the new Confederation had only 29,000,000, and would only have 37,000,000 if entirely united. He refuted the assertion of M. Theirs that France had no allies. "The day that Prussia threatens the equilibrium of Europe, France and England will make her comprehend that the day of ambitious follies is past." He did not believe that Prussia entertained the perilous design of advancing to Constantinople. "If she," he added, "were to make renewed attempts for that object she would encounter the Western Powers having the same interests, the same strength, the same will." In conclusion, he said the relations of France with other powers were of the most friendly character, and that no danger threatened her from without, that the coalition was extinct, and would not revive under the sceptre of Napoleon.

M. Jules Favre begun his reply to M. Rouher by saying that all these excuses were nullified by facts, by official French dispatches, by the last speech from the throne, and finally by his own admissions. That although Germany had long desired unity, the realization of those hopes might have been long deferred. Although the Schleswig-Holstein difficulty led to explosion, it was entirely the fault of the Emperor, if not the result of his plotting. He (the Emperor) had asked England to join in a continental war against Prussia, while he well knew that this proposal would be rejected. He had opposed a combined naval demonstration of England and France, supported by Russia, insincerely pretending that it would have been insufficient to have maintained the treaty with Denmark. M. Jules Favre believed that the real object of the Emperor in this was to retaliate upon England for not having come into the congress he had proposed, and to raise up a state of things from which he hoped to enlarge his territory. Said he, "The speech of the Emperor Napoleon at Auxerre signified a summons to Germany to give us the Rhine. Our programme, which comprised the maintenance of Austria in a grand position in Germany, was openly violated, and to permit this violation of our programme was a policy unworthy of France. The ambition of Prussia knows no bounds. The cause of the present situation of affairs is the extinction of the Legislative body by the power of one man. At the present time we ought to go to the limits of our rights. We ought to repudiate all idea of annexation, but I would ask if the annexation of Belgium or Luxembourg were offered us would it be accepted?"

M. Granier de Cassagnac then delivered a speech, in which he said: "We must threaten no Power, but be armed and await the course of events. We wish for peace, if other Powers will have it so; for war if it be imposed upon us." M. Thiers then called the attention of the House to the present state of political affairs in Europe. He said: "There are three lines of policy open to France. First, a policy of insinuation, which would make Europe believe that when we speak of great agglomerations we desire to increase our own territory. This is the policy I should wish the Government to relinquish. I should like to see the formation of a great conservative party in Europe that would prevent all spoliation. Secondly, a policy of confidence in our ruler. Thirdly, a policy of watchfulness, which would not necessarily cause a complete reorganization of our army, but a new organization of our military forces. The policy I desire for France would be conservative abroad, and liberal at home."

M. Rouher replied to these new arguments of M. Thiers, and said: "The Government does not think to impede abroad the principle of the sovereignty of the people which it holds at home. Universal suffrage sanctioned the Imperial Government which was inaugurated on Dec. 2." Mr. Thiers (interrupting Mr. Rouher), "Let us forget—" (Loud interruptions and great excitement.)

Mr. Rouher concluded thus: "What is required of us? War? No one thinks of it. Violent annexations? No one has proposed them. A policy of watchfulness? That is the policy of the Government. Our isolation has been mentioned. We will have no exclusive alliances. To-day, we will be the allies of England; to-morrow, of Prussia or Austria; and that, not with the object of conquest, but to solve, by conciliatory diplomatic interference, the various questions as they arise. We seek great means to allay great storms."

The Bureaux of the Chamber have refused to authorise the interpellation of Mr. Picard on the recent Senatus Consultum. In consequence it cannot be presented.

GERMANY.

THE GERMAN PARLIAMENT AND THE POLISH DEPUTIES —REMARKS OF COUNT BISMARCK.

In the North German Parliament March 18, Count Bismarck spoke against the protest of the Polish deputies, concerning the incorporation of former Polish territory with the North German Confederation, and said that that protest was directed not against the Confederation but against the unity of Prussia, and, therefore, ought rather to be addressed to the Prussian Diet. He said that the Polish deputies were not authorized by their electors to bring in such a protest, as a majority of the Prusso-Polish population, especially the peasants, were satisfied with their condition, that the clergy and nobility of Poland only carried on political agitation. "It is time," said he, "that the higher clergy did their duty. The restoration of Poland is not to be thought of." He also opposed the protest of the deputies favorable to Denmark, against the incorporation of North Schleswig with the Confederation, in a speech in which he said: "The Emperor of Austria alone has the right, by virtue of the Austro-Prussian treaty, to require that a vote should be taken in North Schleswig, to determine the future position of the northern districts of that Duchy. The portion of Schleswig that will be ceded to Denmark will be smaller than the people of Copenhagen imagine. Count Bismarck, in replying to inquiries of Herr Schrops from Dresden, in regard to the relations of Luxembourg and Limburg, stated that Prussia had never threatened Holland; that it was actually agreed between Prussia and Holland, at the outbreak of the war, to remain at peace. "We cannot force the sovereigns of those Duchies to join the North-German Confederation. We shall put no pressure on Holland in that respect since we might otherwise evoke a European question." He afterward said, during the discussion, that the relations between the South and North of Germany had been insured by treaty immediately after the conclusion of peace; and he endeavored to remove the apprehensions that South Germany might enter into any understanding with foreign powers.

In the North German Parliament on March 26, the amendments to the draft of the Constitution, proposing freedom to the press and the rights of public meeting, were rejected.

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of March 17 says, commenting on the speech of M. Ollivier in the French Assembly: "Friendship between Germany and France has nothing alarming for us. On the contrary, no Russian wishes it disturbed. Though Germany may be proud of the courtesies with which she is treated by French orators, she will as little as Russia believe that her relations have become less friendly toward this country, which was always friendly toward Germany, and has been her ally in time of danger."

HUNGARY.

KOSSUTH ON AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The *Vienna Correspendence* has received communication of a letter addressed by Louis Kossuth to one of his friends at Pesth, and dated February 27. In this document he discusses the new situation of Hungary, and says that he has always been of opinion that the laws of 1848 would triumph in the end, but that he had not foreseen that the cabinet of Vienna would act with so much celerity and prudence. Kossuth speaks also of the formation of a "Danubian Confederation," and of the necessity of leaving the word "liberty" forever inscribed on the banner of Hungary. He declares that he will end his life in a foreign land, and adds: "You know that I cannot and ought not, to accept an amnesty. And, beside, of what further use could I be? The bitter years of exile have broken my strength."

RUSSIA.

AMNESTY.

It is announced that the Emperor of Russia has extended an amnesty to all the Frenchmen who were exiled to Siberia for complicity in the late Polish rebellion.

ITALY.

PROCLAMATION AGAINST BRIGANDS.

A proclamation has been issued at Frasinore offering a reward of 600 scudi for every brigand captured, dead or alive, and 1,200 scudi for every capture of a chief of a band.

SOUTH AMERICA.

THE WAR IN PARAGUAY.

Intelligence received at Lisbon, derived from Paraguayan sources, asserts that two Brazilian ironclads have been placed *hors de combat* near Curupaity. The insurrection in the provinces of the Argentine Confederation is said to be extending. Two thousand five hundred Argentines have been taken from the allied army to oppose the insurgents. President Mitre has returned to Buenos Ayres with a third of his contingent. Urquiza is hostile to the revolutionists in that State. The Brazilian squadron has passed Curupaity, and is exploring the upper affluents of the Parana.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

MICHIGAN.

The State election in Michigan occurs to-day. A Justice of the Supreme Court, two Regents of the University, and 128 delegates to a State Constitutional Convention, intrusted with the important duty of revising the State Constitution, are to be elected. The following are the rival State tickets:

	Republican.	Democratic.
Justice Supreme Court	Benjamin F. Graves.	Sanford M. Green.
University Regents	Thomas D. Gilbert.	William M. Ferry, jr.
	Hiram A. Burt.	Ebenezer Wells.

The following is the vote in the State for Governor in 1866, as compared with the vote for Regent in 1865, and the Presidential vote of 1864:

1866. Governor.		1865. Regent.		1864. President.	
Crapo (Rep.)	96,746	Walker (Rep.)	52,334	Lincoln	91,521
Williams (Dem.)	67,708	Wells (Dem.)	19,426	McClellan	74,604
Rep. maj.	29,038	Rep. maj.	32,908	Rep. maj.	16,917
Total vote	164,454	Total vote	71,760	Total vote	166,125

In 1866 the question of a Constitutional Convention was submitted to the people, and was carried by a vote of 79,505 against 28,623, a majority for revision of 50,882. The present election of delegates is thus held in obedience to the expressed will of the people. Judging from the present complexion of the Legislature, the Republicans will have at least a three-fourths majority in the Convention.

OHIO.

THE SPRING ELECTIONS.

The Spring elections in Ohio, for township, village, and city officers, take place to-day.

POLITICAL.

CONNECTICUT.

The Hartford (Conn.) *Times* publishes the following telegram:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28.—The report in THE TRIBUNE is untrue. I have information that the election of Mr. English is certain. This is my hope and belief.

JAMES DIXON.

WISCONSIN.

RAILROAD MATTERS IN THE LEGISLATURE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

MADISON, March 30.—The Assembly, after a sharp fight, by a large majority has concurred in the Senate bill to facilitate the construction, by the Praris Du Chien Railroad Company, of the railroad from Monroe to Dubuque, authorizing mortgages, bonds, and the issue of stock to replace funds and preferred stocks. The bill is somewhat amended, but is substantially in the form desired by the present managers of the road, and opposed by L. H. Meyer, representing the preferred stock holders. It repeals the law of last Winter, requiring the assent of each class of stockholders to the consolidation or extension, with a proviso that the repeal shall not take effect until the bonds provided for shall have been duly executed and delivered. The limitation to the power of the Directors to issue stock is practically removed.

The Assembly has rejected, by a vote of 32 to 48, the bill making adultery the only ground of divorce. Weatherby, the Democratic candidate for Supreme Judge, has withdrawn. The Senate Committee on Federal Relations have reported in favor of paying S. M. Booth $15,000, expenses and losses in suits growing out of assistance to fugitive slaves.

THE PACIFIC COAST.

THE JAPANESE COMMISSION EN ROUTE FOR NEW-YORK—LAYING OF A CORNER-STONE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 30.—The Japanese Commission and suite sailed to-day in the steamer Golden Age for New-York. During their stay here they visited the fortifications in the harbor, the various military stations, the Government works, and the extensive manufacturing establishments of the city. They were received by several prominent citizens, and apparently were highly gratified with the many attentions shown them. The laying of the corner-stone of the new Mercantile Library building in this city to-day was an imposing affair. The ceremonies were under the direction of the Masonic fraternity. The full Grand Lodge of the State was in attendance.

THE PEABODY FUND.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 30.—The Rev. Dr. Sears has resigned the Presidency of the Brown University to accept, it is understood, the General Agency of the Peabody Southern Educational movement.

THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

RUSSIAN AMERICA CEDED TO THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The President has communicated to the Senate, in its Executive Session, a treaty with Russia, by which that power surrenders to the United States its sovereignty over all of Russian America and the adjacent islands. It especially includes the strip 400 miles long, which extends down the coast, thus excluding British America from the Ocean. The Treaty was laid on the table, and will be taken up next week. The Treaty was concluded between the Secretary of State, on behalf of the President of the United States, and the Russian representatives, on behalf of the Emperor of Russia. The Russian Government agrees to convey to the United States Government all its possessions on the American Continent, known as Russian America, in consideration of the payment of $7,000,000.

The negotiation was discussed at a Cabinet meeting on Friday night. The Russian Minister afterward visited the State Department to arrange the terms, and at an early hour on Saturday morning the arrangement was definitely perfected. The English representatives here are deeply chagrined, and it is said that Sir Frederick Bruce will telegraph to Earl Derby for instructions to protest against its acceptance by our Government. This acquisition more than doubles the United States coast on the Pacific, which now extends from Lower California to Behring's Straits, with the exception of the narrow strip comprising British Columbia. The territory ceded by Russia comprises the whole of the Continent of North America west of longitude 141°. It is bounded by British America and the Pacific and Arctic Oceans. It includes a great number of islands, and is of the highest importance as a naval depot, and for strategic purposes. It is a valuable fur country, and embraces a vast section of territory, the possession of which will influence in our favor the vast trade of the Pacific. The purchased territory covers upward of 400,000 square miles, and contains about 60,000 inhabitants, half of whom are Esquimaux. The fisheries are very extensive, but the principal commercial wealth of the country is in its fur trade, which would, henceforth, be altogether controlled by American merchants. The acquisition of this territory would give our Government the control of the Russian American telegraph, in case the work should be completed.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY AND THE RUSSIAN POSSESSIONS.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—A small request has been largely answered, as the following petition sent from Washington Territory, seems to have been more than gratified, in the negotiations yesterday, of the treaty concluded between the United States and the Russian Government, for the purchase of the Russian American Possessions.

To His Excellency ANDREW JOHNSON, *President of the United States:*

In reference to the cod and other fisheries, your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory, beg leave to show that abundance of lead-fish, halibut, and salmon of excellent quality have been found along the shores of the Russian Possessions. Your memorialists respectfully request your Excellency to obtain such rights and privileges of the Government of Russia as will enable our fishing vessels to visit the ports and harbors of its possessions, to the end that fuel, water, and provisions may be easily obtained; that our sick and disabled fishermen may obtain sanitary assistance, together with the privilege of curing fish and repairing vessels in need of repairs. Your memorialists further request that the Treasury Department be instructed to forward to the Collector of Customs of this (Puget Sound) district, such fishing licenses, abstract journals, and log-books, as will enable our hardy fishermen to obtain the bounties now provided and paid to the fishermen in the Atlantic States. Your memorialists finally pray your Excellency to supply such ships as may be spared from the Pacific naval fleet, in exploring and surveying the fishing banks known to navigators to exist along the Pacific coast from the Cortes Banks to Behrings Straits, and as in duty bound, your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed the House of Representatives Jan. 10, 1866.
EDWARD ELDRIDGE, Speaker of the House of Reps.
Passed the Council Jan. 13, 1866.
HARVEY K. HINES, President of the Council.

The petition is accompanied by the certificate of the Secretary of the Territory as to its being a true copy. The petition, it is seen, was passed more than a year ago, and is the foundation of the treaty now awaiting the ratification of the Senate.

THE CEDED TERRITORY.

The cession of Russian North America to the United States, if consummated, will be the most important international event affecting this continent which has occurred in many years. Such an unimportant part indeed has Russian-America played in the affairs of nations and of men that, when an offer for its cession from one Power to another is made known, the announcement conjures up in the mind of nearly every one visions of a cold, barren, and uninhabited region, converging about Behrings Straits, and celebrated only because Capt. Beechy and Sir John Franklin voyaged on its coasts. But, in this resuscitation of school-day memories, or even in a casual glance at the map of the continent itself, the most important parts of the territory would most likely escape notice. These are the Peninsula of Alaska and the archipelagoes known as George III. and Prince of Wales, rather peculiar names for a series of islands forming part of the possessions of the Russian Bear. It is noticeable, however, that the Russians know the islands by other names, and the one named George III. by Vancouver, forming part of the archipelago generally known by the name of that monarch, is by them called Baranov. These islands are formed by inlets of the ocean, and are more properly a narrow strip of land extending for nearly 400 miles along the coast of the Pacific, broken by narrow causeways and arms of the sea extending in every direction.

The principal settlements are in these islands, the largest town being New Archangel, on the island of Sitka, which has a population of only 1,000. On the island called George III, or Baranov, is the seat of the Governor of all the establishments of Russian America. It has a Governor's residence and fortifications, and magazines built of wood, and on its coasts is usually a fleet of two frigates and two corvettes. The whole region along these coasts, including the archipelago of Kodiac and the peninsula of Alaska, is exceedingly mountainous, being a succession of lofty peaks, most of them volcanic, one of them reaching nearly 15,000 feet in hight, and another being little inferior in altitude. The part of the mainland south of Mt. St. Elias, one of the volcanic peaks before referred to, and the loftiest summit on the continent, is nowhere more than 33 miles wide. The islands and coasts of the mainland have generally been well explored, but the interior of the country, which looms up prominently on the map, is almost entirely unknown. The estimated area of the whole territory is about 394,000 square miles. It has an average length and breadth of 600 miles. The longest line that can be drawn across the country, from Cape Prince of Wales on Behrings Straits through the narrow strip bordering on British Columbia and the Pacific Ocean, to the extreme southern point of the Russian possessions, is 1,600 miles. But it will be seen from its average length and breadth that the mass of the country is tolerably compact. From several expeditions that have been projected into the interior, it seems that the western part of the territory is elevated and uneven, while the part extending along the Arctic Ocean is generally flat. The north coast was discovered early in the present century, Capt. Cook having previously, as early as 1778, penetrated as far north as Icy Cape. In 1826 Capt. Beechy reached Point Barrow, and at the same time the lamented Sir John Franklin, then Capt. Franklin, traced the coast from the mouth of the Mackenzie River to Return Reef.

The population of Russian America is about 60,000, of whom at least 50,000 are Esquimaux. The remaining portion of the inhabitants are Russians, Creoles, Kodiaks and Aleoots. The principal pursuits and chief dependence of the inhabitants are the fisheries and fur-hunting. Little attention is given to agricultural pursuits; but to view this vast territory as wholly forbidding and barren is to fall into a grave error. For, its shores being washed by the warm Pacific stream, which sweeps up from the China Sea and breaks near the extreme north-west point of the continent, its atmosphere is toned down to the salubrity of points on the Atlantic coast which are many degrees further from the pole. Far inland there is a region of almost perpetual snow; but on the coast, and as far inland as the breezes from off the China Sea current may reach and modify the rigors of the climate, the land is fruitful and the country inviting.

The fur product of the country has for many years been made a monopoly by the Russian Government, but the United States and Great Britain succeeded in obtaining a lease for the territory from 50° 40' north latitude to 58° 13', and the exclusive privilege of supplying the Russians with agricultural produce and provisions was granted to the Hudson's Bay Company. The monopoly of the other territory remains with the Russian American Company.

It is noticeable that, by the treaties with the United States and Great Britain made in 1824, the late Russian possessions comprehend all the American coast of the Pacific, and the adjacent islands north of the parallel of 54° 40' north latitude, and the whole of the mainland west of the meridian of 141° west longitude, which passes through Mount St. Elias. This boundary treaty was accepted and made binding so long ago as 1824.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The Senate in Executive session yesterday confirmed the following nominations:

Collectors of Internal Revenue—Gen. James B. Steedman of Ohio, First District of Louisiana; Henry A. Guernsey to the Eighteenth District of Pennsylvania.

Assessors of Internal Revenue—John W. Frazier to the First District of Pennsylvania; Calvin W. McLane to the Tenth District of Illinois.

Postmasters—Wm. Cromwell, at Bloomington, Ill.; Samuel G. Smith, Peru, Ill.; Leroy S. Brown, Natchez, Miss.; Henrietta Davies, Columbus, Miss.; Louisa Cameron, Tallahassee, Fla.; George Phillips, Key West, Fla.

Register of Land Office—Nathaniel S. Goss, at Humboldt, Kansas.

Receiver of Public Money—David S. Emmert of Humboldt, Kansas.

To be Colonel United States Infantry—Capt. Ranold S. McKenzie of the Corps of Engineers.

To be Captain United States Infantry—Jacob H. Smith.

Collector of Customs—Patrick S. Slevin, District of Miami, Ohio.

Surveyor of Customs—Jesse M. Harrison, Dubuque, Iowa.

Appraiser of Merchandise—Landor Valentine, Portland, Me.

The Senate rejected the following nominations:

Paymaster United States Army—Wm. H. Johnston, late Paymaster of Volunteers.

Brigadier General by Brevet—Brevet Col. James B. Fry.

Register of Land Office—Abram S. Wadsworth, at Traverse City, Mich.

Collectors of Internal Revenue—Charles W. Baker, VIIIth District of New-York; Thomas McGrath, IVth District of Pennsylvania.

United States Marshal—Angel D. Wass, District of Massachusetts.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

ORIGIN OF THE CHARLESTON DISTURBANCE.

NORFOLK, March 29.—The Rebel report from Charleston about negro disturbances is false. The freedmen only repelled outrageous Rebel attacks upon them. The meeting was one of remarkable order.

A REBEL ACCOUNT OF THE RIOT.

The Charleston Courier gives the following account of the trouble:

Yesterday, after the adjournment of the mass meeting of freedmen, a report of which elsewhere appears, a seemingly well organized effort was made by the freedmen who had participated in that affair, to test their right to ride upon the street cars in violation of the rules of the Company. The ringleader in the matter, who is a resident of Meeting-st., opposite Burns's-lane, and a barber by profession, thrust himself into the car of Conductor Faber, and upon being politely requested by him to go out, refused to do so. Mr. Faber informed him of the rules of the Company, and insisted upon his leaving the inside of the car, when his friends, finding that he was liable to be forcibly ejected, if resistance was offered, persuaded him to come out. Upon the return of Mr. Faber's car to the scene, which occurred in Meeting, between George and Society-sts., a large crowd of negroes rushed into it, to the great discomfort of the white passengers, and although remonstrated with and appealed to by the conductor, declined to go out. Mr. Faber then stepped to the front platform and requested the driver to run the car off the track, as this was his only alternative. The effort to comply with his request failed, and the driver, at the suggestion of Mr. Faber, unhitched his horse, and, leaving the car on the track, went up to the Company's stable. Finding themselves disappointed, the rioters endeavored to push the car forward, when Mr. Faber put down the brake and stuck to his post, although he was threatened by one of the number who had stolen the iron by which the switches are turned, and held it in a striking attitude over his head, while others strove to pull Mr. Faber away from the brake. At this juncture the timely arrival of the police relieved him from his embarrassing situation. In the meanwhile the cars of Messrs. Roumillat, Rives and St. Amand had been invaded in the same way, and in some instances the lady passengers were compelled to leave them for fear of personal insult and injury. When the rioters found that the conductors could not be awed into acquiescence with their demands to be permitted to ride on an equality with the white passengers, they tried to interrupt the travel of the cars by placing stones on the track. Information of these facts having been communicated to the Upper and Lower Guard Houses, detachments were sent from each to the scene of the disturbance, and by the influence of their presence, and the aid of a squad of regular soldiers who were dispatched from the Citadel, the riot was ended and the rioters dispersed.

RECONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The following is the text of Gen. Sickles's reply to the address presented to him on Tuesday last by the Charleston merchants:

GENTLEMEN: It affords me great satisfaction to receive this visit and to hear the gratifying sentiments which have been expressed. I feel assured that the citizens generally will do everything in their power to sustain the laws and aid me in the discharge of the duties which I am to perform. The general interests and prosperity of North and South Carolina have been the object of my earnest solicitude since I have been in command in this Department, and what I have done in this regard in the past, I will continue to do in the future. The solution of the present political difficulties rests with the citizens themselves. The military authorities will not interfere as partisans in military movements or organizations. We will endeavor impartially and fairly to promote the reorganization of the civil government in the two States. Ample protection will be given to life, liberty, and property. In conclusion, gentlemen, be assured that I shall always be glad to hear any expression of your sentiments, and to comply with your suggestions so far as may comport with my sense of duty.

DESTITUTION AT THE SOUTH.

LETTER FROM MAJOR-GENERAL THOMAS.

The following letter from Major-Gen. George H. Thomas to a prominent citizen of Chicago, is published in the journals of that city:

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 22, 1867.

Mr. CARTER H. HARRISON, *Chicago, Ill.—Dear Sir:* I received your favor of the 17th inst. this morning, for which I am much obliged, as it will enable me to point out a locality in Georgia and Alabama where the people of both sides of the question at present dividing the country are in extreme want for provisions, and many who have means to do so will be compelled to quit their homes, unless they can get subsistence enough to enable them to make crops this year. The people of Carroll, Haralson, Polk, Paulding, Campbell, Corveta, and Heard, Ga., and Randolph, Calhoun, and Cherokee, Ala., are represented to me as not having provisions to last them until May next; and great numbers who have the means to move will be compelled to do so, unless they can procure provisions from abroad. All classes of the citizens are alike destitute, the rich as well as the poor, and both must starve if they remain in the country, unless provisions are sent to them. The rich are perfectly willing to purchase if any one will send them provisions, and wait for them to gather in their crops before demanding payment.

By aiding these people, I know you will be doing good service in relieving distress which is common throughout the South, and will also be giving encouragement to people who will appreciate the relief afforded them in their time of need. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. THOMAS.

P. S.—Corn and bacon are articles most essential, as the people absolutely need something to enable them to remain at home and cultivate their crops. Anything sent to Mr. W. H. McDaniel, Carroll County, Ga., via Newman, Ga., on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, will reach him safely. He is the authorized agent of the citizens of Carroll County. I can send you the names of agents for the other counties, should you desire them. It will be necessary to write to those counties, however, to get the other names.

G. H. T.

RECONSTRUCTION.

LETTER FROM GEN. BEAUREGARD—HIS VIEWS ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The following letter from the Rebel Gen. Beauregard is published, addressed to the editor of *The New-Orleans Times:*

NEW-ORLEANS, March 23, 1867.

DEAR SIR: You have done me the honor to call for my opinion relative to the action of the South under the Military bill. Having seldom taken any part in politics, I do not feel well qualified to advise on so momentous a question; nevertheless, as the same desire to obtain my views has been manifested from various quarters, I shall not shrink from the responsibility of expressing them, in the hope that they may tend to compose the public mind, so justly alarmed at this moment. In my humble opinion we have but one of two things to do—resist or submit. The first is inadmissible in our painfully exhausted condition. Four years of a desperate war have taught us that the argument of the sword can no longer be resorted to by us to redress our grievances. We must, therefore, submit, but with that calm dignity becoming our manhood and lost independence. Having been overpowered in the late struggle we can submit to the harsh and ungenerous terms of our conquerors without dishonor, and we must adopt the least of two evils. A futile resistance would only cause our rivets to be driven closer.

We must, then, acquiesce or leave the country. But we love too dearly the land of our birth to abandon it in its hour of sorest trial. We should avoid, also, bringing it, by internal dissensions, to the condition of poor Mexico and the unfortunate South American republics.

With regard to the suffrage of the freedmen, how ever objectionable it may be at present it is an element of strength for the future; if properly handled and directed we shall defeat our adversaries with their own weapon. The negro is Southern born; with a little education and some property qualifications he can be made to take sufficient interest in the affairs and prosperity of the South to insure an intelligent vote. In our future political contests with the North on protective tariff, internal improvements, &c., the freedmen of the South will side with the whites of the South and West, and they will thus contribute to give us back the influence we formerly had in the councils of the nation. Our people should understand that the radicals can remain in power only so long as the public excitement is kept up. As with the turbid waters of the Mississippi River, the sedimentary particles are kept up at the surface, only so long as the waters are in motion, the instant the current is checked these particles fall to the bottom. Thus it will be with the radicals when peace and virtue are restored to the country. The conservatives will then take the reins in their own hands, and the constitutional laws of the land will once more prevail.

Respectfully, G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ALABAMA.

Pursuant to a call signed by the Governor, the State Auditor and Treasurer, the Postmaster, and Mayor of Montgomery, Gen. Wager Swayne, and some 100 other leading men of the State of all nationalities, a large and harmonious meeting of citizens of the State, was held at the capitol in Montgomery on the evening of March 26. *The Advertiser* of that city, in noticing the assemblage, says:

"The yard and every portion of the building that could afford a view of the proceedings were filled. Great many colored people were in attendance, and there were, also, in the packed crowd, many of the truest and most substantial men of Montgomery, who showed, unmistakably, how deeply they had the interest of the country at heart. The Hall of the House was decorated with flags of the Union—36 stars."

Addresses were delivered by Messrs. A. C. Felder, J. C. Keffer, Major H. C. Semple, Gen. Wager Swayne and others, and resolutions, declaring it the duty of all good citizens to "carry out with earnestness and harmony the requirements of the Reconstruction Law," and to vote only "for men well known to have inflexibly at heart the integrity of the United States and the vitality of its powers," were unanimously adopted. A State Convention at the capitol, of the Union men of the State, was recommended, and an Executive Committee appointed and authorized to call the meeting together again for the purpose of taking preliminary steps in that direction.

THE FENIANS.

RETURN OF THE CAMPO BELLO ARMS.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

EASTPORT, Me., March 30.—Col. Ransom, in command of Fort Sullivan at this place, has received orders from the War Department to surrender to Mr. Kerrigan of New-York all the arms, ammunition, and equipments seized here last April by Collector Long on board the schooner Pray, on the ground that they were intended for the Fenian forces on the frontier. Mr. Kerrigan has given bonds that they shall not be used for any unlawful purpose.